AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

1-115. (Cancelled)

116.   (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

selecting a set of instances from a set of data;

determining a number of related records in a set of related records of a table, wherein

each record of the set of related records is related to one instance of the set of instances;

comparing the number of related records and a number of instances in the set of instances prior.

to generating a set of select statements to select the set of related records from the table; and

if the comparing indicates that the number of instances is greater than the number of related

records,

generating the set of select statements to comprise one select statement to select the set of

related records from the table, wherein

the one select statement includes a clause to select a corresponding record for

each instance of a set comprising a maximum number of instances of the

set of instances,

the maximum number of instances is determined by a maximum number of

clauses in the one select statement, and

the one select statement is configured to

cause an update operation to be performed on a record in the table, if the

record already exists in the table, and

cause an insert operation to be performed to insert the record in the table,

if the record does not already exist in the table.

117.   (Cancelled)

118.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 116 wherein

the generating is performed if the number of instances is substantially greater than the number of

related records, and

the number of instances is substantially greater than the number of related records when a ratio

between the number of instances and the number of related records is larger than a

specified value.

119.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 118 wherein
the specified value is 7.

120.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 116 further comprising:
executing the one select statement;

after executing the one select statement, determining a set of respective operations to perform on

the table, wherein

each respective operation of the set of respective operations affects a respective record in

the table, and

each respective record corresponds to one instance of the set comprising the maximum

number of instances; and

generating a set of SQL statements to perform each respective operation of the set of respective

operations, wherein

the set of SQL statements does not join the table to another table.

121.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 120 wherein
each respective operation is one of

an update operation to update an existing record in the table and

an insert operation to insert a new record in the table.

122.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 121 further comprising:
executing the set of SQL statements to provide the respective record in the table for each

instance of the set comprising the maximum number of instances.

123.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 121 wherein
the generating the one select statement comprises

constructing a select clause to select a record from a plurality of records in the table,

wherein

the record has identifying data for one instance of the set comprising the

maximum number of instances; and

concatenating to the select clause a respective OR clause to select a
subsequent record for each subsequent instance of the set
comprising the maximum number of instances excluding the one
instance.

124.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 121 wherein
the determining the respective operation for a first instance of the set comprising the maximum
number of instances comprises:
comparing respective data in each respective record of a plurality of records in the table
to identifying data for the first instance; and
if the identifying data for the first instance matches the respective data of a first
record of the plurality of records,
determining that the respective operation for the first instance is the update
operation;
and
if the identifying data for the first instance does not match the respective data of
any record of the plurality of records,
determining that the respective operation for the first instance is the insert
operation.

125.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 124 wherein
the generating the set of SQL statements further comprises
if the respective operation is the update operation,
adding an update statement to the set of SQL statements to update the first record
using instance data from the first instance.

126.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 124 wherein
the generating the set of SQL statements further comprises
if the respective operation is the insert operation,
adding an insert statement to the set of SQL statements to insert a second record
into the table using instance data from the first instance.

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127. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 118 wherein
if the comparing indicates that the number of instances is not substantially greater than the
number of related records,

generating the set of select statements to include the one select statement for each
instance of the set of instances;

executing each statement of the set of select statements prior to generating a subsequent
select statement of the set of select statements.

128. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 116 wherein
the determining the number of related records is performed without selecting the set of related
records from the table.

129. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
processing means for processing information, the processing means comprising

selecting means for selecting a set of instances from a set of data[[;]] ,

determining means for determining a number of related records in a set of related records
of a table, wherein

each record of the set of related records is related to one instance of the set of
instances;

comparing means for comparing the number of related records and a number of instances
in the set of instances prior to generating a set of select statements to select the set
of related records from the table; ~~and~~ ,

generating means for generating the set of select statements to comprise one select
statement to select the set of related records from the table if the comparing
indicates that the number of instances is greater than the number of related
records, wherein

the one select statement includes a clause to select a corresponding record for
each instance of a set comprising a maximum number of instances of the
set of instances,

the maximum number of instances is determined by a maximum number of
clauses in the one select statement, and

the one select statement is configured to

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cause an update operation to be performed on a record in the table, if the

record already exists in the table, and

cause an insert operation to be performed to insert the record in the table,

if the record does not already exist in the table; **and**

memory means for storing, wherein

the memory means and the processing means are coupled to one another, and

the memory means is configured to store at least one of at least a portion of the table

and at least a portion of the set of data.

130.   (Cancelled)

131.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 129 further comprising:

executing means for executing the one select statement;

second determining means for determining a set of respective operations to perform on the table

after executing the one select statement, wherein

each respective operation of the set of respective operations affects a respective record in

the table, and

each respective record corresponds to one instance of the set comprising the maximum

number of instances; and

second generating means for generating a set of SQL statements to perform each respective

operation of the set of respective operations, wherein

the set of SQL statements does not join the table to another table.

132.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 131 wherein

each respective operation is one of

an update operation to update an existing record in the table and

an insert operation to insert a new record in the table.

133.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable **storage** medium comprising:

selecting instructions configured to select a set of instances from a set of data;

determining instructions configured to determine a number of related records in a set of related

records of a table, wherein

each record of the set of related records is related to one instance of the set of instances;

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comparing instructions configured to compare the number of related records and a number of
    instances in the set of instances prior to generating a set of select statements to select the
    set of related records from the table; and

generating instructions configured to generate the set of select statements to comprise one select
    statement to select the set of related records from the table if the comparing indicates that
    the number of instances is greater than the number of related records, wherein
    the one select statement includes a clause to select a corresponding record for each
        instance of a set comprising a maximum number of instances of the set of
        instances,
    the maximum number of instances is determined by a maximum number of clauses in the
        one select statement, and
    the one select statement is configured to
        cause an update operation to be performed on a record in the table, if the record
            already exists in the table, and
        cause an insert operation to be performed to insert the record in the table, if the
            record does not already exist in the table.

134.   (Cancelled)

135.   (Currently Amended) The computer-readable **storage** medium of claim 133
further comprising:

executing instructions configured to execute the one select statement;

second determining instructions configured to determine a set of respective operations to perform
    on the table after executing the one select statement, wherein
    each respective operation of the set of respective operations affects a respective record in
        the table, and
    each respective record corresponds to one instance of the set comprising the maximum
        number of instances; and

second generating instructions configured to generate a set of SQL statements to perform each
    respective operation of the set of respective operations, wherein
    the set of SQL statements does not join the table to another table, and
    each respective operation is one of

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an update operation to update an existing record in the table and

an insert operation to insert a new record in the table.

136.   (Cancelled)

137.   (Previously Presented) A computer system comprising:

a processor to execute instructions; and

a memory to store the instructions, wherein

the memory is coupled to the processor, and

the instructions comprise:

selecting instructions configured to select a set of instances from a set of data;

determining instructions configured to determine a number of related records in a

set of related records of a table, wherein

each record of the set of related records is related to one instance of the set

of instances;

comparing instructions configured to compare the number of related records and a

number of instances in the set of instances prior to generating a set of

select statements to select the set of related records from the table; and

generating instructions configured to generate the set of select statements to

include one select statement to select the set of related records from the

table if the comparing indicates that the number of instances is greater

than the number of related records, wherein

the one select statement includes a clause to select a corresponding record

for each instance of a set comprising a maximum number of

instances of the set of instances,

the maximum number of instances is determined by a maximum number

of clauses in the one select statement, and

the one select statement is configured to

cause an update operation to be performed on a record in the table,

if the record already exists in the table, and

cause an insert operation to be performed to insert the record in the

table, if the record does not already exist in the table.

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138.   (Cancelled)

139.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 137 wherein the instructions further comprise:

executing instructions configured to execute the one select statement;

second determining instructions configured to determine a set of respective operations to perform
    on the table after executing the one select statement, wherein
       each respective operation of the set of respective operations affects a respective record in
         the table, and
       each respective record corresponds to one instance of the set comprising the maximum
         number of instances; and

second generating instructions configured to generate a set of SQL statements to perform each
    respective operation of the set of respective operations, wherein
    the set of SQL statements does not join the table to another table.

140.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 139 wherein
each respective operation is one of
    an update operation to update an existing record in the table and
    an insert operation to insert a new record in the table.

141.   (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a selecting module configured to select a set of instances from a set of data;

a determining module configured to determine a number of related records in a set of related
    records of a table, wherein
    each record of the set of related records is related to one instance of the set of instances;

a comparing module configured to compare the number of related records and a number of
    instances in the set of instances prior to generating a set of select statements to select the
    set of related records from the table; [[and]]

a generating module configured to generate the set of select statements to comprise one select
    statement to select the set of related records from the table if the comparing indicates that
    the number of instances is greater than the number of related records, wherein
    the one select statement includes a clause to select a corresponding record for each

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instance of a set comprising a maximum number of instances of the set of

instances,

the maximum number of instances is determined by a maximum number of clauses in the

one select statement, and

the one select statement is configured to

cause an update operation to be performed on a record in the table, if the record

already exists in the table, and

cause an insert operation to be performed to insert the record in the table, if the

record does not already exist in the table; and

a processor, wherein the processor is configured to execute at least one of the selecting

module, the determining module, the comparing module and the generating module;

and

a memory, wherein

the memory and the processor are coupled to one another, and

the memory is configured to store at least one of the selecting module, the

determining module, the comparing module and the generating module.

142.   (Cancelled)

143.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 141 further comprising:

an executing module configured to execute the one select statement;

a second determining module configured to determine a set of respective operations to perform

on the table after executing the one select statement, wherein

each respective operation of the set of respective operations affects a respective record in

the table, and

each respective record corresponds to one instance of the set comprising the maximum

number of instances; and

a second generating module configured to generate a set of SQL statements to perform each

respective operation of the set of respective operations, wherein

the set of SQL statements does not join the table to another table.

144.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 143 wherein

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each respective operation is one of

    an update operation to update an existing record in the table and

    an insert operation to insert a new record in the table.

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